



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent application of)
SHIGENORI HAYASHI)
Serial No. 10/714,395) Group Art Unit: 1773
Filed: November 17, 2003) Examiner: S. Resan
For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicant submits herewith a Form PTO-1449 listing references known to Applicant and requests that these references be made of record in the above identified application. Copies of the references listed are submitted herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a).

EP 0 454 296 corresponds to JP 04-010214.

The references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited in parent application Serial No. 09/407,862 and predecessor Application Serial Nos. 08/823,541 and 08/154,009 and copies of the references can be found in those applications.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits, therefore, no fee is required.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, 1.20(a), 1.20(b), 1.20(c), and 1.20(d) (except the Issue Fee) which may be

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 4-26-04

Adelle M. Stanger

required now or hereafter, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2280.

A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric J. Robinson

Reg. No. 38,285

Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office

PMB 955

21010 Southbank Street

Potomac Falls, Virginia 20165

(571) 434-6789 (Voice)

(571) 434-9499 (Facsimile)

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT APR 27 2004 (See instructions on reverse side as necessary)		Complete if Known	
Application Number		10/714,395	
Filing Date		November 17, 2003	
First Named Inventor		Shigenori HASASHI	
Group Art Unit		1773	
Examiner Name		Stevan A. Resan	
Attorney Docket Number		0756-7222	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		4,717,622		Kurkawa et al.	01/05/88	
		4,774,130		Endo et al.	09/27/88	
		4,840,844		Futamoto et al.	06/20/89	
		4,880,687		Yokoyama et al.	11/14/89	
		4,892,789		Nakayama et al.	01/09/90	
		5,266,409		Schmidt et al.	11/30/93	
		5,275,850		Kitoh et al.	01/04/94	
		4,647,494		Meyerson et al.	03/03/97	
		5,637,373		Hayashi	06/10/97	
		5,466,431		Dorfman et al.	11/14/95	
		5,500,296		Inoue et al.	03/19/96	
		4,804,590		Nakamura et al.	02/14/89	
		5,110,676		Murai et al.	05/05/92	
		4,996,079		Itoh	02/26/91	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP	58-042472			03/11/83		Full
		JP	01-226711			09/11/89		Full
		JP	02-083816			03/23/90		Full
		JP	02-125877			05/14/90		Full
		JP	62-241124			10/21/87		Abst.
		JP	63-121116			05/25/88		Full
		JP	03-019120			01/28/91		Full
		JP	03-256220			11/14/91		Abst.
		JP	04-134623			05/08/92		Abst.
		JP	04-313812			11/05/92		Full
		JP	61-220119			09/30/86		Full
		JP	64-076422			03/22/89		Full
		JP	01-096820			04/14/89		Full

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known			
				Application Number		10/714,395	
				Filing Date		November 17, 2003	
				First Named Inventor		Shigenori HASASHI	
				Group Art Unit		1773	
				Examiner Name		Stevan A. Resan	
Sheet	2	of	3	Attorney Docket Number		0756-7222	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		5,989,672		Hayashi	11/23/99	
		5,364,690		Takahashi et al.	11/15/94	
		5,637,393		Ueda et al.	06/10/97	
		5,853,871		Kitaori et al.	12/29/98	
		5,945,219		Yamada et al.	08/31/99	
		4,778,582		Howard	10/18/88	
		4,869,797		Nagao et al.	09/26/89	
		4,932,331		Kurihara et al.	06/12/90	
		5,015,494		Yamazaki	05/14/91	
		5,182,132		Murai et al.	01/26/93	
		5,227,211		Eltoukhy et al.	07/13/93	
		4,645,977		Kurokawa et al.	02/24/87	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ²	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP	01-154314			06/16/89		Full
		JP	02-149924			06/08/90		Full
		JP	02-208827			08/20/90		Full
		JP	03-76023			04/02/91		Full
		JP	03-176814			07/31/91		Full
		EP	0 454 296			10/30/91		Eng.
		JP	02-027517			01/30/90		Abst.
		JP	03-296919			12/27/91		Abst.
		JP	04-010214			01/14/92		Abst.
		JP	60-023406			02/06/85		Abst.
		JP	59-119536			07/10/84		Abst.
		JP	62-058417			03/14/87		Abst.
		JP	01-258220			10/16/89		Abst.
		JP	01-320622			12/26/89		Abst.
		JP	04-040626			02/12/92		Abst.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known			
				Application Number		10/714,395	
				Filing Date		November 17, 2003	
				First Named Inventor		Shigenori HASASHI	
				Group Art Unit		1773	
				Examiner Name		Stevan A. Resan	
Sheet	3	of	3	Attorney Docket Number		0756-7222	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		6,194,047		Hayashi	02/27/01	
		6,258,434		Hayashi	07/10/01	
		6,623,836		Hayashi	09/23/03	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP	61-136678			06/24/86		Abst.
		JP	01-189019			07/28/89		Abst.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.